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THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, HEYE FOUNDATION

By GEORGE H. PEPPER

How old is the American Indian? Whence came he and when? Is he an immigrant whose ancestors first saw the light of day in some far-distant land or is he indigenous to the western hemisphere? These oft-repeated questions have been puzzling geographers and anthropologists since first Columbus set foot upon the new land that was destined to present so many problems for the savants of the eastern world. Years of research and the expenditure of untold thousands have brought us to the realization that the origin of the American Indian is still as great a problem as it ever was and will no doubt claim the attention of scientific investigators for many years to come.

That the history of our primitive races may receive the attention that it deserves and that the proper facilities for the study of American anthropology may be presented to the scientist and general student in the proper way, a new institution has been founded, unique in the annals of anthropological work in this country, whose object will be the preservation of everything pertaining to our American tribes. It will be American pre-eminently, excluding everything that pertains to foreign peoples and claiming as its own naught but the productions of primitive man in the two Americas. This new stimulus to American anthropological studies is the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation. The institution, fathered by George G. Heye of New York City, embodies the hopes and plans of years of active work and will contain not merely collections of primitive art and utilitarian productions but everything that will be of value to the student who is endeavoring to add something to the general knowledge of the American Indian.

The corner-stone of the new museum was laid on Wednesday, November 8th, at Broadway and 155th Street, in the square now partly occupied by the Hispanic Society of America, the American Geographical Society, and the American Numismatic Society. It will be remembered that in this

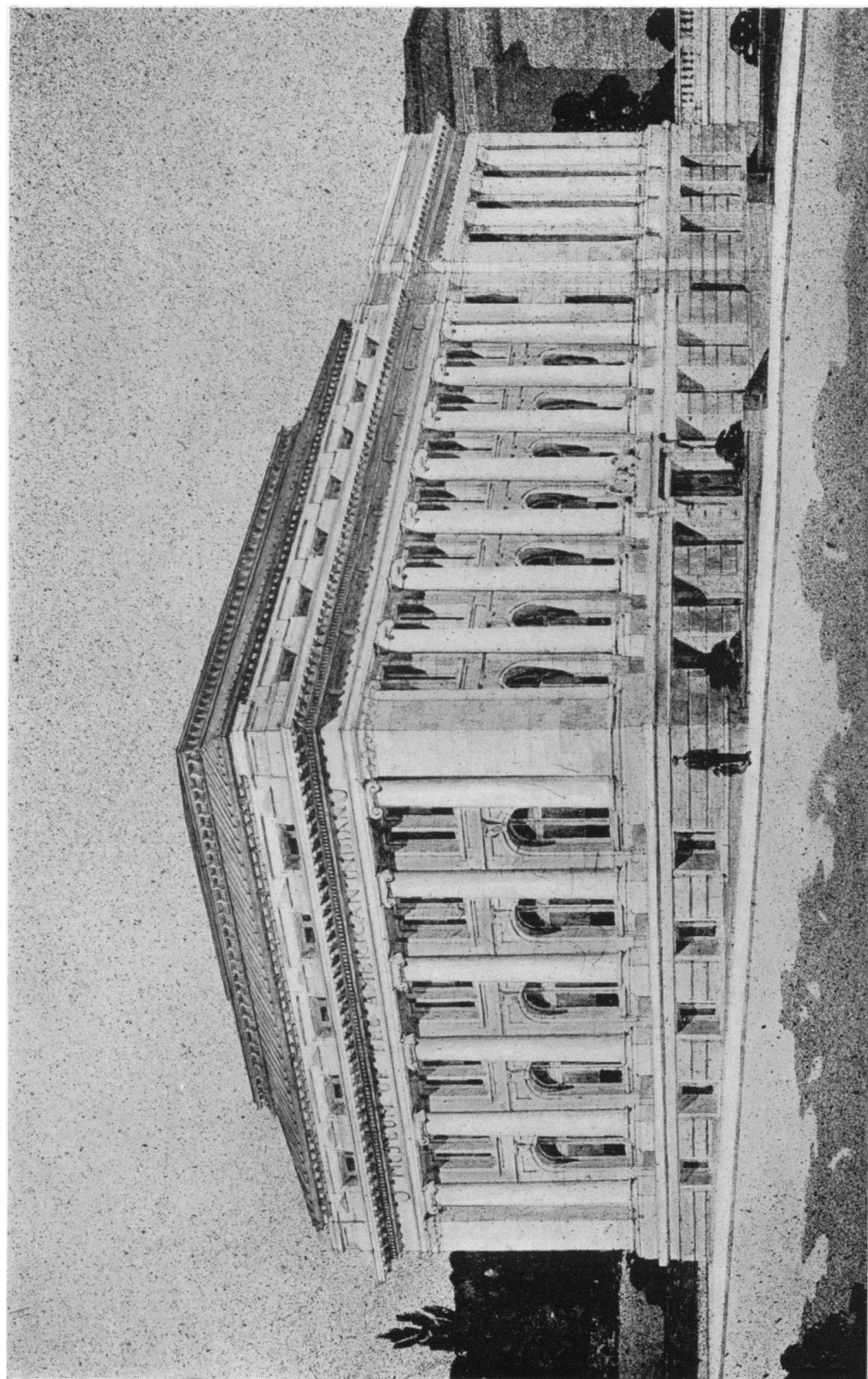


FIG. 1.—New building of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, now in course of construction at Broadway and 155th Street, New York City.

square will be located the future home of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Institute of Arts and Letters. The Museum of the American Indian will be especially interesting to the Fellows of the American Geographical Society because of the close relations between geographic environment and the culture and distribution of primitive man. The two institutions will work in a spirit of hearty co-operation, and their exhibition halls, practically adjacent, will be visited by thousands from every part of the country.

As perspective is required to present the history of this great undertaking in its proper light we must go back to the time, a decade and a half ago, when Mr. Heye became interested in the problem of the American Indian. His novitiate was of short duration, for it soon became apparent

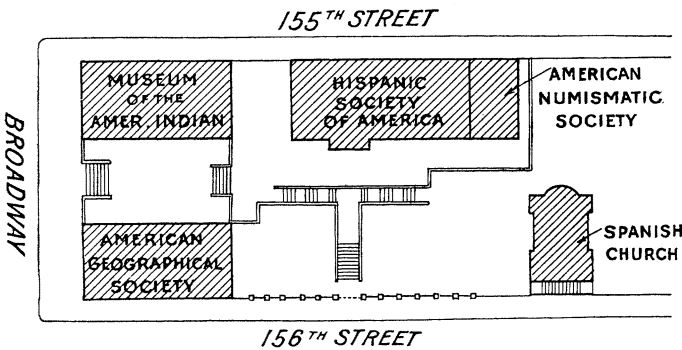


FIG. 2—Plan showing the location of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, now under construction, with reference to the American Geographical Society and the other institutions at Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets, New York City.

that systematic collecting, scientific recording, and untiring efforts in preservation of specimens were the three prerequisites of success. Numerous museums were visited and methods of preparation of specimens and catalogs were studied. In 1903 the first large collection was purchased. This was the Henry E. Hales collection of prehistoric Pueblo pottery and other material from the ruins in Socorro County, New Mexico. It was shortly after the purchase of this collection that the writer became associated with Mr. Heye and during the summer of 1904 obtained for him his second large addition, a collection of pottery vessels from the St. Johns region of Arizona. These two accumulations of Pueblo material form the real nucleus of the Heye collection. From the first, catalog entries were made on two sets of cards, the individual sets being kept in different buildings, thereby insuring the data against loss by fire. Throughout the development of the project of making a collection along the most approved scientific lines, one idea was dominant—the bringing together of material, not for personal gain or the mere gratification of a personal hobby but for the use of students in their studies of the artifacts of our primitive peoples.

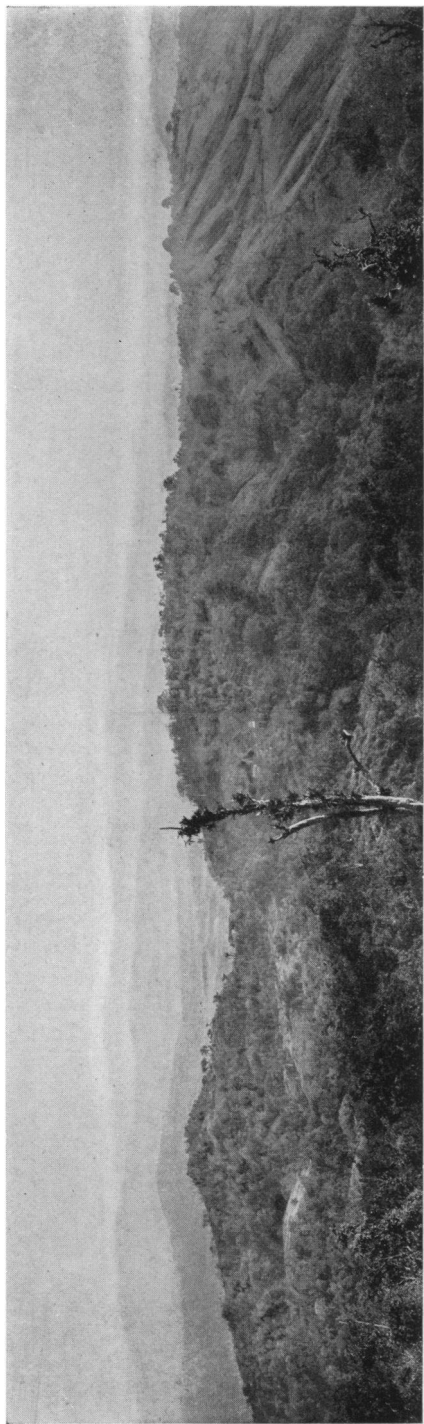


FIG. 3.

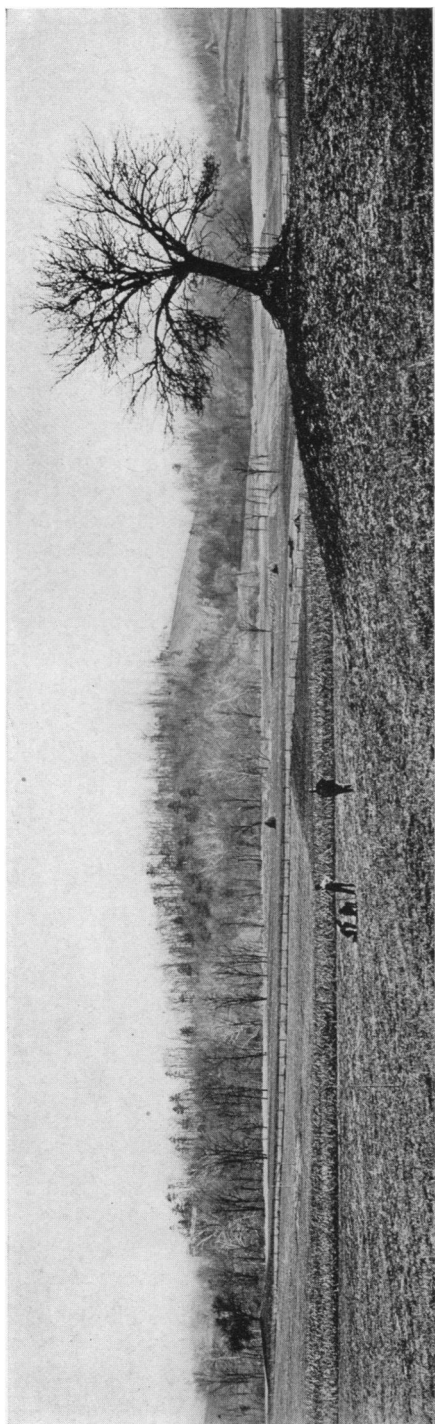


FIG. 4.

FIG. 3—Panoramic view of Cerro de Hojas, Manabí, Ecuador. These Andean foothills were terraced by the aborigines, and on these terraces their houses were built.
FIG. 4—River bottom near Canton, N. C., showing two prehistoric Indian mounds. The one in the right foreground was explored by one of the Museum expeditions.

The work of the new museum will not be confined to the exhibition of material. One of the main features will be the study collection, consisting of large series of specimens so arranged that they can be utilized to advantage. This has long been the dream of museum curators, and many students and collectors have felt the need of collections so arranged that they could obtain the needed information through personal study of the objects. Thus science and education will go hand in hand, and it will be the aim of those interested in the museum work to instil in the popular mind the necessity of preserving all objects of Indian origin, especially those of a perishable nature.

The story of the American Indian north of Mexico in the early days before the advent of the alien was, until comparatively recent times, shrouded in mystery. Having no written language, he left no records that can be woven into a consecutive story. Pictographs there are in abundance, but most of them are similar to the crude attempts of children in the delineation of some personal adventure. The years that have passed since the time of the Conquest have witnessed the natural decay and disintegration of the perishable objects that were then in use. In many cases, especially in the central part of the United States and in Canada, the Indians placed their dead in the open, and, though their prized possessions were deposited with them, the passing years have left but few vestiges of costumes, objects of wood, or other artifacts that would tell so much of the habits, ceremonies, and home life of those who used them. Furthermore, in certain parts of America cremation not only of the bodies but of vast masses of objects was practiced. For the last hundred years the rapid colonization and development of great sections of the New World have resulted in the destruction of cemeteries, mounds, and other aboriginal burial-places.

In a few instances nature has exhibited a kindlier mood, and in the fastnesses of caves has preserved rare woven fabrics and other materials of an esthetic and utilitarian nature. The atmospheric conditions prevailing in some of the caves in Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and northern Mexico have caused the desiccation of practically all of the organic matter therein contained. Human tissues have undergone a natural drying process which has mummified the bodies, in a natural way, as perfectly as did the elaborate mummifying processes of the ancient Egyptians. From these caves and from certain others in Kentucky and Oklahoma much material of a highly enlightening nature has been obtained, but nothing to show that their inhabitants had reached that cultural horizon that marks the beginning of written records. The dry and arid soil and the general conditions prevailing along the Peruvian coast have preserved, in the *huacas*, practically everything that would exhibit native utilitarian and artistic products. Here, however, the very wealth of material has attracted the ruthless search of the treasure seeker, resulting in the practical destruction of much that the student needs for reconstructing the life history of the

ancient people. One other region is to be found in America where nature has assisted in the preservation of the remains. This is in the great north-western section of Argentina. Outside of these localities, owing to the disintegration of perishable artifacts, the story of archeology must remain decidedly incomplete. In Mexico the Spaniards found a culture that was more highly developed than the cultures that existed north of the Rio Grande. Painted records had been used perhaps for centuries before the landing of the old conquistadors. Ideographic records of conquests, astronomical and astrological observations, and of general events in the lives of the people were depicted on deerskin or maguey fiber. These "codices," some of which retain the annotations made by the early padres, with the elaborately carved records on stelae and other stone monuments, have proved to be of wonderful value in the study of Mexican archeology, but consecutive records, histories, poems, rituals, such as are recorded on the cylinders of Babylon or on the papyri of the Egyptians, do not exist in the New World, and, having no such heritage, the student must evolve the story of the various prehistoric tribes from what they have left behind them. Hence the need of continued scientific study of the glyphs and codices of Mexico and Central America and the investigation of the mounds, the caves, the middens, and other places wherein may be found objects that may add to our knowledge. The interrelation of objects may prove of prime importance in the determination of the use to which they were put by the particular people of the region, and it is this gathering and correlation of facts that will enable our investigators, through analogy, to arrive at definite conclusions and thus prepare for the historian the skeletal frame upon which the life history of our aborigines may be built.

FIELD EXPEDITIONS

The first actual field collecting was begun in 1904, when Mr. Frank D. Utey visited Porto Rico in the interest of Mr. Heye. He succeeded in obtaining a wooden *duho*, or seat, several stone collars, a number of petaloid celts, and other stone implements. During the same year the writer carried on exploration work in the *yacatas*, or mounds, of the *tierra caliente* of Michoacan, Mexico, where many pottery vessels and other objects were found associated with the burials. In 1905, Mr. Utey collected in Panama and Costa Rica, but the first comprehensive plans for extended exploration work were not formulated until 1906. At that time Prof. Marshall H. Saville of Columbia University planned and commenced this work. It had for its object an exhaustive survey of a certain portion of the Andean and coast regions of the northwestern portion of South America, beginning with the southernmost limits of Ecuador and extending northward to the Isthmus of Panama. A continuation of the work was planned to include the northern and northeastern parts of South America and the islands of the West Indies.



FIG. 5.



FIG. 6.

FIG. 5—Modern native bamboo house on Cerro Jaboncillo, province of Manabi, Ecuador. Judging from the prehistoric house enclosures, it would seem that in ancient times this was the prevailing type of house.

FIG. 6—Prehistoric stone seat found on a house site on Cerro Jaboncillo near the town of Monte Cristi, province of Manabi, Ecuador.

In 1906 Professor Saville, accompanied by Mr. Foster H. Saville, carried on investigations in Ecuador in the province of Manabi and in the interior valleys of the Andes near Riobamba. Owing to the unexpected richness of the Ecuadorian field the first plan, namely, the making of a reconnaissance of Ecuador and Colombia, was abandoned, and Mr. Heye decided to devote funds for a more thorough survey of the field.

In 1907 the second expedition, consisting of two parties, was sent to Ecuador. The first party, consisting of Foster H. Saville and Lewis W. Niendorff, was sent out in February in order to complete the collecting work begun the year before. Later they went to the vicinity of Ambato, where large and representative collections were obtained. In May the second party, consisting of Professor Saville and the writer, went to Manabi. At this time Mr. Niendorff was sent to the Island of Puna, while the other three members of the expedition carried on the work of exploration in Manabi. In August Professor Saville and Mr. Niendorff went to the province of Esmeraldas, where investigations were carried on; thirty-five locations were visited and large collections were obtained, excavations being carried on in several places.

In 1908 the third expedition visited the coast of Ecuador. Professor Saville was assisted by the American Consular Agent at Esmeraldas, Mr. George D. Hedian. During this season general work was carried on in the province of Manabi in the vicinity of the equator.

In 1910 the fourth Ecuadorian expedition carried on explorations in the interior, especially in the provinces of Bolivar, Léon, Pichincha, Imbabura, and Carchi, the work of the expedition ending at the Colombian frontier. On this trip Professor Saville had four assistants, among whom was Señor Manuel Gamio, the present Inspector of Ancient Monuments in Mexico. Since that time Professor Saville has made another trip to Esmeraldas, and in 1914, accompanied by Foster H. Saville and Randolph M. Saville as assistants, spent a season in exploring mounds and village sites in the municipality of Tumaco, Colombia, along the southern section of the Colombian coast. In 1916 the work of completing this survey of the coast of Colombia along the Ecuadorian frontier was accomplished. So far as Ecuador is concerned there remain to be investigated but the southern provinces that adjoin the frontier of Peru.

All of these researches were purely archeological. In the coast region of northern Ecuador is the only tribe of pure-blood Indians at present living on the coast. They inhabit the region near the Rio Santiago and form part of a former numerous people known for many years as the Yumbos. These are true Cayapa Indians, and a study of this tribe was deemed an essential part of this investigation in order to ascertain if any traditions remained which might throw light on the antiquities of the coast. Dr. S. A. Barrett was sent to the field in 1908 and 1909 to investigate the habits, customs, and language of the Cayapa, and his report is now ready for the press.

In 1915 Professor Saville and Randolph M. Saville made a reconnaissance in the Department of Cortez, Honduras. An examination was made of the archeological conditions along the Ulua River, and an important collection of antiquities was brought together illustrating the complex features of this section of Central America, objects of several well-known and far-distant cultures being found in the restricted area of the broad valley in which flow both the Ulua and Chamelecon Rivers.

As a result of this continued and consistent work the Museum possesses the only comprehensive collection from Ecuador that has ever been brought together. The interior has furnished large series of pottery vessels, including a wonderful lot of mortuary jars that were found in the *huacas* of Angel in the province of Carchi. These *huacas*, or well-like tombs, were discovered by the natives, who in some way ascertained that gold had been buried by the older peoples with the bodies. The entire town moved to the ridges that contained these *huacas*, and systematic grave robbery was carried on. They found many gold ornaments, which were melted as soon as taken out, also the symmetrical jars before mentioned. Many of these vessels were preserved and may now be seen in the temporary home of the Museum at 10 East 33rd Street, New York City. Stone, bone, and metal objects and ornaments were found in abundance in many parts of the regions visited by the expedition.

During the second season, 1907, the writer was in charge of the excavation work near Manta in the province of Manabi. The Andean foothills near this town were dotted with house sites which contained numerous stone carvings, the most noteworthy being the stone seats, most of which are supported on the backs of human or animal figures. Of the sixty-five seats that were found a few are quite small, but many are very heavy: one specimen weighs over 300 pounds. Two large burial mounds were explored, one of which, according to a local tradition, had on its summit a large stone table encircled by a ring of these seats. Fragments of seats were found at the base of one of the mounds, but none was encountered beneath the surface, and there were no evidences of the presence of the stone table, the greater part of the objects found with the burials being pottery vessels.

On the coast of the province of Esmeraldas many pottery vessels and gold and platinum ornaments have been found. The gold is of particular interest, as the individual pieces are in the form of filigree or other forms of delicate techniques. Included in the gold material from Ecuador is a large crown that was found in a tomb in Sigsig, province of Azuay; some of the objects found with it, including a throwing stick incrustated with gold, were destroyed by the natives who found them, but many of the accompanying objects were rescued.

Near the coast town of Atacames, province of Esmeraldas, burials of a peculiar nature were found by Professor Saville; they were in large cylindrical pottery tubes which had been superimposed to form a *huaca*. These

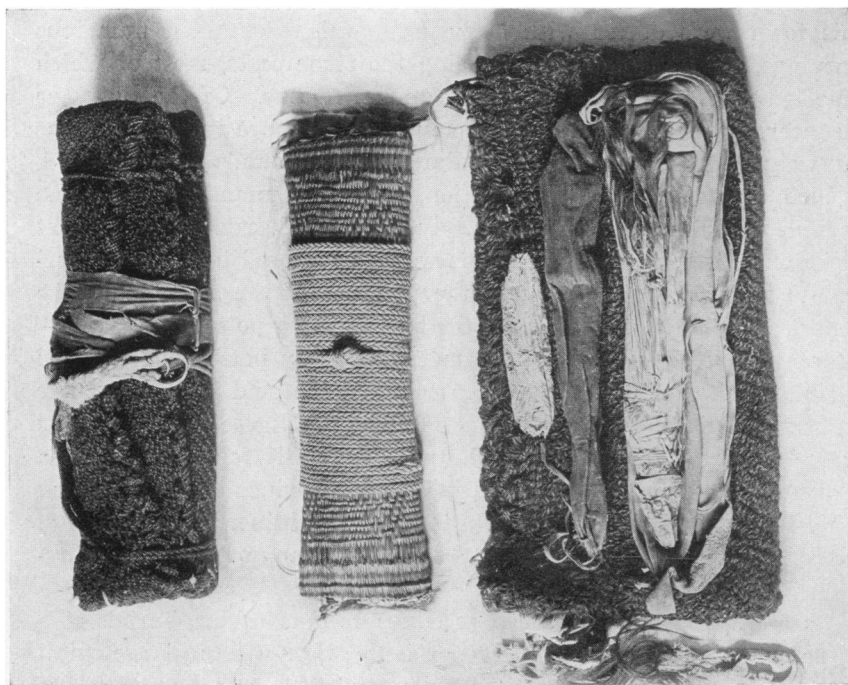


FIG. 7.

Fig. 7—Osage scalp bundles. The upper one is complete. The other is a record of the bundle, including the "scalp bird."

Fig. 8—Painted buffalo robe of the Sioux Indians. This particular record is known as "Lone Dog's winter count," and is a record of events typifying years from 1800-01 to 1870-71. It starts with the middle figure, which means thirty Sioux were killed by the Crow Indians; the last year, shown in the upper right hand corner, records the death of fourteen Sioux in battle with the Crows. Thus the principal event of each year stands for the year itself.

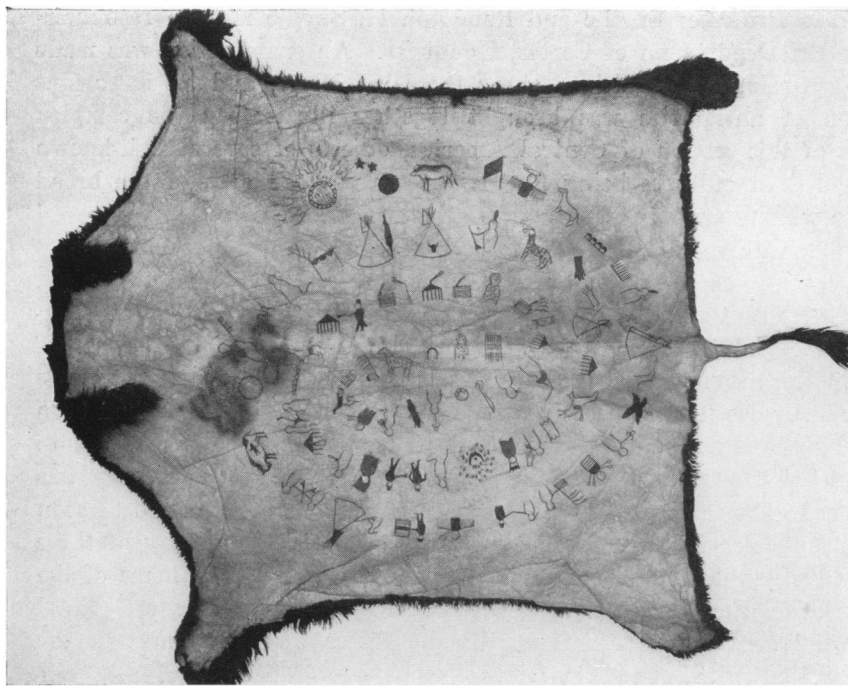


FIG. 8.

Fig. 8—Painted buffalo robe of the Sioux Indians. This particular record is known as "Lone Dog's winter count," and is a record of events typifying years from 1800-01 to 1870-71. It starts with the middle figure, which means thirty Sioux were killed by the Crow Indians; the last year, shown in the upper right hand corner, records the death of fourteen Sioux in battle with the Crows. Thus the principal event of each year stands for the year itself.

prehistoric people had no doubt migrated from the interior, where they had been accustomed to carve their *huacas* in the solid rock; finding conditions unsuited to such work they produced a substitute by lining a hole with the tubes. In one of these was found a skull containing teeth that had been inlaid with bands of gold and in another a jaw having circular gold inlays in the teeth. This ornamentation was done for purely ceremonial purposes or for adornment and is a wonderful example of pre-Columbian dentistry. These specimens are now in the Museum collection.

Two large volumes and several monographs concerning the work in this region have been published,¹ and others are in press.

In 1907 a general archeological survey of the West Indies was begun. The Rev. Thomas Huckerby of the island of St. Vincent was entrusted with the work of collecting the scattered material that is found in such abundance on this island. Since then he has extended his field of operations to Tobago, Trinidad, Grenada, Carriacou, Cannouan, and many of the other islands of the Lesser Antilles and of the Windward Islands. He is still engaged in this most important work, and through his efforts the Museum now has an archeological collection from these islands that is second to none. The wide range of axe and celt forms from St. Vincent and Grenada, especially the ceremonial types of the former class of implements, presents an exhaustive series for the study of the evolution of animal and other forms. Of still greater interest to the student is a series of both well-known and fantastic objects made from a metamorphosed volcanic scoria. There are several hundred specimens, all of which were found in a restricted area near Fancy at the base of the volcano of La Soufrière. Nothing like them has been found in the adjacent islands, and it is quite probable that they were made and deposited at this place as votive offerings in way of propitiation to the god of the volcano.

Mr. Theodoor de Booy of the Museum staff started his West Indian investigations in the islands of the Bahamas, especially those included in the Caicos group. Among the few prehistoric implements from these parts is a monolithic axe, and in one of the caves a perfectly preserved Lucayan paddle was found. It is fashioned from a piece of cedar and is the first one that has been recorded as having come from the West Indies. Evidencing as it does the form of paddle in use by the natives before the time of Columbus it is of special interest to the layman as well as to the student. The kitchen-middens of Jamaica, the caves in the eastern part of Cuba, the caves and middens of Santo Domingo, the village sites of Trinidad and of the Dutch islands of Oruba, Curaçoa, and Buen Ayre, near the coast of Venezuela, all have received the attention of this investigator, and many new forms and unique specimens have been added to the collections as a result of these explorations. One pottery figure from a cave in Santo

¹ See footnote 3, below.

Domingo is in the form of a hunchbacked man and is represented in a sitting posture. Originally it was no doubt seated on a stool, but no evidence of its remains was found in the cave. So far as known it is unique; the only similar specimen being one that was found in Santo Domingo and sent to Europe.

Dr. J. Walter Fewkes of the Bureau of American Ethnology in Washington, D.C., who has made a special study of West Indian cultures, visited St. Vincent in the interest of the Museum. He also visited many of the smaller islands and carried on explorations on the island of Trinidad. In the kitchen-middens of Erin Bay, Trinidad, he found pottery vessels and other objects, representative of the prehistoric culture of the island, that throw a new light on this particular area and the environmental influences that have affected it.

The archeology of the island of Cuba was practically unknown until Mr. M. Raymond Harrington, following Mr. De Booy's preliminary survey, began his investigations in the caves and middens of the Baracoa region on the east coast of the island. Pottery vessels, which at that time were represented by only a few specimens in the museums of this country, were found in great numbers, many of them being in a perfect state of preservation. These, with fetiches, cave idols carved in the solid rock, carvings in stone, shell, bone, and wood, and various objects of a utilitarian nature have furnished the much-needed material for comparative studies of Carib and Arawak productions as shown by the various islands.

The main object of these extended investigations is the scientific assembling of facts relative to the manner of inhumations, the stratification of refuse heaps, which may be indicative of widely separated periods of occupancy, and the artifacts from each cultural area. The extension of the South American work to the coastal regions of Venezuela and the Guianas will probably complete the areas from which material is needed for a comprehensive comparison of forms. This should show the mainland influences on the island cultures and possibly indicate the early migrations and the home centers from which came the natives who took up their abode in the various islands of the Greater and the Lesser Antilles.

For several years Mr. Harrington was engaged in ethnological field researches for the Museum. His work among the southern tribes, including the Seminole, Choctaw, Creeks, Cherokee, Chitimacha, Huma, Alibamy, and Catawba, and among the western tribes, including the Delaware, Osage, Shawnee, and other tribes in Oklahoma, the Fox, Sac and Fox, Kiowa, Kiowa Apache and Chirichua Apache and the Kickapoo in northern Mexico, has given the Museum a valuable series of ethnological specimens, including one of the most complete series of scalp, war, tattoo, and other bundles that have ever been brought together. The scalp bundle of the Osage is represented by several examples. It consists of an outer cover made of woven buffalo hair. This is generally tied with a thong of buckskin to which is

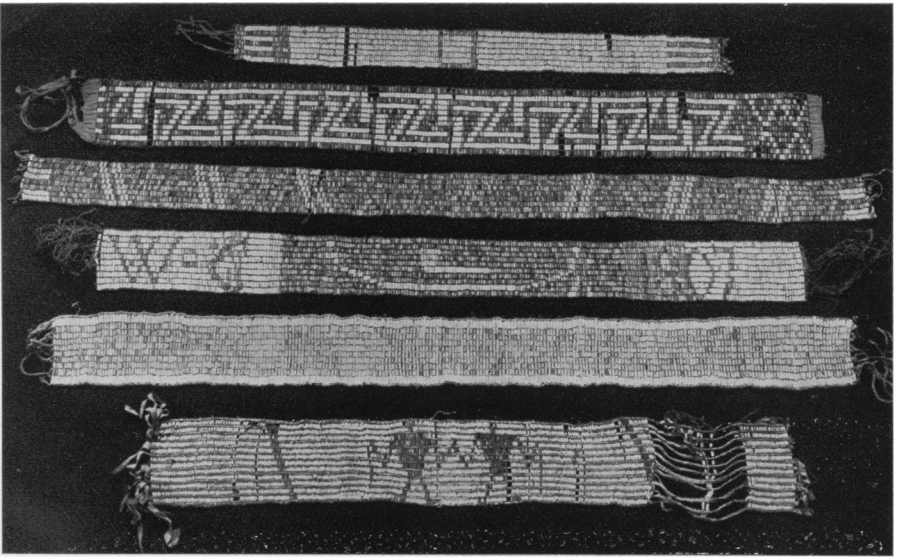


FIG. 9.

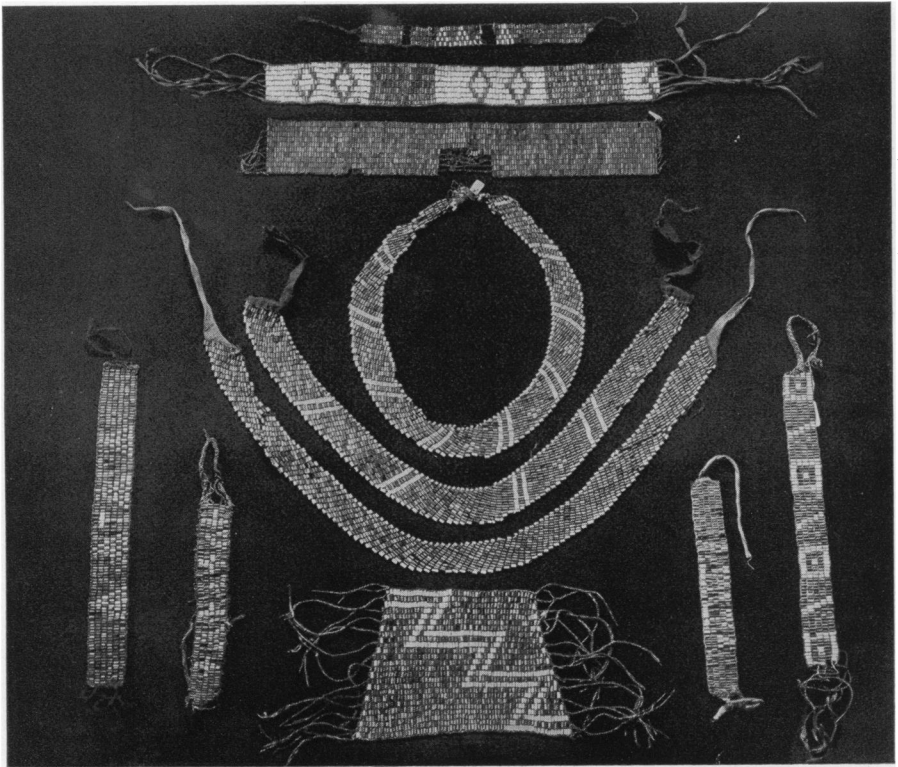


FIG. 10.

FIG. 9—Wampum belts made and used by the Iroquois and other Indians of the eastern part of the United States. The lower one is said to have been used in one of the treaties between the Delawares and William Penn.

FIG. 10—Wampum belts and necklaces and a wampum wristlet. The necklace shown in circular form is composed of glass beads made in imitation of the shell wampum; these beads date from the latter part of the eighteenth century.

attached an eagle leg and claw. Within the buffalo hair bag is a second bag, but this one is made of rushes: it has several buckskin receptacles containing tobacco and other material, but the object of special interest is the bag or pouch containing the war bird. This scalp-holder is the body of a hawk that has been stuffed. Its body is painted and it has a cord by means of which it may be carried. Attached to the band surrounding the hawk is a series of scalp fragments. These are all from human heads and each represents the death of some member of the Osage clan to whom the bundle belonged. When a clan member died it behooved the warrior members to kill an enemy in order that a piece of his scalp might be obtained and assurance given to the spirit of the deceased that he would have company on his journey to the spirit world. Aside from the ceremonial value and historic interest of these bundles they present one of the most interesting evidences of the utilization of the hair of the buffalo in the manufacture of bags; they are perhaps the best examples of this class of work extant.

The ceremonial bundles are repositories for much of the old material that illustrates the esthetic attainments of the early days. Ceremonial objects that, under normal conditions, would have been worn out or destroyed are therein preserved in their original condition. Delicate network made of buffalo-hair cord, snake and other skins embellished with porcupine-quill designs and wonderful quilled belts embodying in their designs the figures of men and animals are a few of the objects that would have been lost to the scientific world had they not been carefully preserved in the skin-wrapped bundles. Mr. W. C. Orchard, head technician of the Museum, who studied porcupine-quill work among the Sioux Indians, utilized many of the techniques found on specimens in the ceremonial bundles in his recent monograph on the technique of porcupine-quill work, which was published by the Museum. These bundles, as well as the moisture-proof caves, have proved to be storehouses of untold riches without which the field of supposition and analogical resort would have been immeasurably greater.

In the summer of 1914, Mr. George G. Heye and the writer explored the ancient council village of the Minisinks near the town of Montague in Sussex County, New Jersey. The cemetery contained over sixty burials, and, although Iroquoian influence was in evidence, much Algonquian material was found. With the bodies were pottery vessels and pipes, bird and animal forms in shell, also objects that showed contact with the early settlers. In the fall of the same year, after the completion of the Minisink work, field operations were transferred to the western part of New York state, where two cemeteries and a large kitchen-midden were explored.

In the spring of 1915, Mr. Heye opened a mound near the town of Canton in Jefferson County, North Carolina; and during the summer and fall of the same year the great Nacoochee mound in White County, Georgia, was explored. This rather extended work was in charge of Mr. Heye, Mr.

F. W. Hodge, of the Bureau of American Ethnology, and the writer. Most interesting and valuable specimens were obtained in this earthwork, including a large series of pipes, an unusual pottery jar in the shape of a dog, and an axe of native copper which is still held firmly in place in the original wooden handle. This specimen was found at the base of the mound, eighteen feet below the surface, and is, so far as known, the only one that has been found in this country. During the present year M. R. Harrington, assisted by Alanson Skinner, Edwin Coffin, and Charles Turbyfill, of the Museum staff, has been engaged in the work of excavating a number of prehistoric mounds and burial places in the vicinity of Ozan and Washington, in Hempstead County, Arkansas, and many unusual ceramic forms were found.

COLLECTIONS

Among the noted collections that have helped to form the Heye collection is the one brought together by Dr. Joseph Jones of New Orleans. The purchase of this material placed in the Museum most of the type specimens that were figured and described by Doctor Jones under the title "Explorations of the Aboriginal Remains of Tennessee."² Made in the early days when good material was procurable and when the smaller mounds of the South had not been rifled, it contained specimens that have never been duplicated. It is particularly rich in material from the Southern states, but, as a consequence of Doctor Jones's omnivorous collecting activities, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, and other regions are represented by stone sculptures and other specimens of note.

Other large collections that have helped greatly in the work include that brought together by the Rev. Mr. Crosby, which was rich in fighting head-dresses of the Tsimshian and Haida; that of Joseph Keppler, containing Iroquoian material, especially masks, wampum belts and strings, also clothing and objects of personal adornment; the Mrs. Thea Heye collection, consisting of selected specimens of old ethnological material from the North American Indians, also a large collection of pipes from the Middle West and various rare forms and general archeological material from the greater part of the United States and Mexico, especially from New Mexico and Utah; the H. K. Deisher material, consisting of specimens obtained from the mounds at Stockton, California, also a large amount of general archeological material; the major part of the Col. Bennett H. Young collection of Kentucky artifacts, including the large series of moccasins and other objects of a perishable nature from Salts, Mammoth, and other Kentucky caves, his entire collection of Kentucky pottery, and other specimens, including most of his pipes and a large wooden figure of a man that was found in a Kentucky cave.

Other acquisitions were the Albert C. Addis collection, which was rich in ceremonial archeological specimens from the United States and contained

² *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge* 259 (Vol. 22, Art. 2), 1876.

the greater part of the Francis Cleveland collection of pipes, which for many years was exhibited in the museum of the Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio; and the various collections of Northwest Coast materials brought together by Lieut. G. T. Emmons, including a large series of pipes and other specimens from the Haida, Tlingit, Tsimshian, Niska, and other tribes, also a representative collection from the Tahltan tribe of Alaska. An extremely valuable addition was the material consisting of over a hundred prehistoric mortuary and other pottery vessels from southern California, representing many years of work on the part of E. H. Davis, from whom they were obtained. Recent additions include the Minor C. Keith Costa Rican pottery collection, which embraces over ten thousand specimens from the east coast of Costa Rica; the noted Lady Blake collection of West Indian archeology; the collection of ivory implements and ornaments of the Eskimo and tribes of the Northwest Coast from J. E. Standley; the L. F. Branson collection of pottery and shell ornaments from Yell County, Arkansas; and the A. H. Blackiston collection of Mexican and Central American material that for a number of years was exhibited in the National Museum in Washington, D.C. It contains a wooden mask covered with a mosaic of turquoise, from Honduras, also a large series of pottery vessels from the ruins of Casas Grandes in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico.

Smaller collections in great number and in many instances the purchase of individual specimens have, with the results of expeditions, brought the Heye collection to its present exceptional scientific and numerical strength.

AIMS OF THE MUSEUM

The success of the Heye Museum—the title of the institution prior to the present foundation—is due to the early decision to exclude all foreign specimens and to assist other organizations. The vital interest in the work shown by Mr. Heye, his unflagging energy, his determination to uphold and develop his ideals, and his goodfellowship and *camaraderie* in the everyday work of the Museum have forged his links of hope into a strong chain of reality. The founding of the Museum of the American Indian marks the end of personal effort and opens up a broad field wherein all who are interested in the American Indian can work. Up to the time of the consideration of the present institution, all of the funds for the furtherance of the work, including expeditions, publications, the purchase of collections, and museum maintenance, were furnished by Mr. Heye and his mother, Marie A. Heye, who, up to the time of her decease, was a constant source of inspiration and whose kindly interest was reflected in the great financial aid that she gave to the project.

The results obtained, as a natural sequence, brought the Heye Museum to a position where it needed the help that only organized effort could give. The bringing together of certain individuals who are interested in museum work and who were most favorably impressed with the idea of having a

museum unique in the annals of the country, one that would be devoted exclusively to the American Indian, marked the beginning of the new institution. Mr. Heye agreed to turn over his collections, amounting to over 400,000 specimens, to a board of trustees, and Mr. Archer M. Huntington agreed to deed to the trustees the plot of land on the southeast corner of 155th Street and Broadway, New York City. The architect's elevation drawing shows the museum as it will appear when completed. It will be 65 feet wide and 125 feet in length and will contain four stories and basement. The cost of the building will be about \$250,000, the greater part of which has been furnished by the trustees and their friends. The foundation is practically completed, and the building should be finished some time during the coming spring.

The new museum will continue the work of collecting and preserving for future study the esthetic, utilitarian, and ceremonial objects of the tribes of North, South, and Central America, and the West Indies. Special efforts will be made in the direction of locating perishable objects and endeavoring to obtain them for the Museum. A new department, that of Physical Anthropology, has been organized; it will be carried on under the direction of Dr. James B. Clemens, who will be assisted by Dr. Bruno Oettking, and in the future all skeletal material from expeditions and from other sources will be preserved in the Museum.

The scientific collections will be displayed in cases in such a way that each group will tell a story that will appeal to the general public as well as to the scientist. The main exhibition halls will be devoted to this class of presentation, and in the basement there will be a systematically developed and carefully arranged study collection, where large series of most of the typical forms of each culture area may be seen and examined at leisure.

The publication work started by the Heye Museum has been continued and several monographs have been published under the auspices of the new institution.³ This work will be extended and will present to the public the

³ The following is a complete list to date of the publications of the Museum:

The George G. Heye Expedition: Contributions to South American Archeology.

Vol. 1. *The Antiquities of Manabi, Ecuador: A Preliminary Report.* By Marshall H. Saville, 1907.

Vol. 2. *The Antiquities of Manabi, Ecuador: Final Report.* By Marshall H. Saville, 1910.

Contributions from the Heye Museum.

Vol. 1, No. 1: *Lucayan Artifacts from the Bahamas.* By Theodoor de Booy. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 15, 1913, No. 1.

No. 2: *Precolumbian Decoration of the Teeth in Ecuador, with some account of the occurrence of the custom in other parts of North and South America.* By Marshall H. Saville. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 15, 1913, No. 3.

No. 3: *Certain Kitchen-Middens in Jamaica.* By Theodoor de Booy. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 15, 1913, No. 3.

No. 4: *Porto Rican Elbow-Stones in the Heye Museum, with discussion of similar objects elsewhere.* By J. Walter Fewkes. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 15, 1913, No. 3.

No. 5: *Note on the Archeology of Chiriqui.* By George Grant MacCurdy. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 15, 1913, No. 4.

No. 6: *Petroglyphs of Saint Vincent, British West Indies.* By Thomas Huckerby. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 16, 1914, No. 2.

No. 7: *Prehistoric Objects from a Shell-Heap at Erin Bay, Trinidad.* By J. Walter Fewkes. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 16, 1914, No. 2.

No. 8: *Relations of Aboriginal Culture and Environment in the Lesser Antilles.* By J. Walter Fewkes. Reprinted from *Bull. Amer. Geogr. Soc.*, Vol. 46, 1914, No. 9.

No. 9: *Pottery from Certain Caves in Eastern Santo Domingo, West Indies.* By Theodoor de Booy. Reprinted from *Amer. Anthropol.*, Vol. 17, 1915, No. 1.

results of field explorations, general archeological and ethnological studies, and the results of technological researches. The expansion of this educational work in the form of lectures and the availability of specialists to whom the student may go for facts not brought forth by the exhibits, in connection with the large general and specialized libraries, will tend to make the Museum a center for those who are interested in America and the American Indian.

The Board of Trustees of the new Museum includes George G. Heye, Chairman; Harmon W. Hendricks, Vice-Chairman; Archer M. Huntington, James B. Ford, Minor C. Keith, and F. Kingsbury Curtis. Mr. Heye will be the Director of the Museum, Mr. Curtis the Treasurer, and Mr. F. K. Seward the Secretary.

Since the foundation of the new Museum, members of the Board and others who are interested in the institution have donated several valuable collections. Thus, from a private undertaking, superintended and financed by an individual, it has become a great public benefaction—a benefaction that needs the assistance of all who are interested in the preservation of material that will help to a better understanding of the primitive tribes of the two Americas.

Footnote 3, continued—

Contributions from the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation.

- Vol. 2, No. 1: Exploration of a Munsee Cemetery near Montague, New Jersey. By George G. Heye and George H. Pepper. 1915.
- No. 2: Engraved Celts from the Antilles. By J. Walter Fewkes. 1915.
- No. 3: Certain West Indian Superstitions Pertaining to Celts. By Theodoor de Booy. Reprinted from *Journ. Amer. Folk-Lore*, No. 107, Vol. 28, 1915.
- No. 4: The Nanticoke Community of Delaware. By Frank G. Speck. 1915.
- No. 5: Notes on the Archeology of Margarita Island, Venezuela. By Theodoor de Booy. 1916.
- No. 6: Monolithic Axes and Their Distribution in Ancient America. By Marshall H. Saville. 1916.
- Vol. 3: Physical Anthropology of the Lenape or Delawares, and of the Eastern Indians in General. By Aleš Hrdlička. (*Bur. of Amer. Ethnol. Bull.* 62, 1916, with added title-page and cover.)
- Vol. 4, No. 1: The Technique of Porcupine-Quill Decoration among the North American Indians. By William C. Orchard. 1916.